SCHEME FOR THE TRAINING OF TYPIST CLERKS

168. Mrs. K. Joshua *(Trichur-Women):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) have Government submitted any scheme to the Government of India for the training of Typist clerks;

(*b*) are pensioned teachers included in the scheme among the teaching staff;

(*c*) if the answer is in the affirmative why they are included when there are qualified hands in the Government services?

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Arrangements have been made for the training of typist clerks for the Army at the Civmil Centre, Trichur.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No answer is necessary in view of answer to (*b*).

ARTICLE IN THE "SAHODARAN"

169. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have noted the article by "ഒരു അനുഭവശാലി" (one who has experience) under the caption "കണ്ട്രോൾ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ ശ്രദ്ധയ്ക്ക്" (for the attention of the Control Department) on page 4 of the "Sahodaran", dated 6th Thulam 1119;

(*b*) if so, whether they have done anything to remove the difficulties pointed out in that article;

(*c*) if so, what are the steps taken?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) Steps are being taken to publish a consolidated list of all controlled articles together with the price of such articles. It is not true to say that subordinate officers are ignorant of rules. They are given instructions from time to time by their Departmental Heads.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government are aware that some of the Excise Peons who are posted on the borders of the State in Excise Posts unnecessarily harass people by telling that the export of a certain article is controlled, when actually such article is not controlled?. Will the Government be pleased to give them a list of controlled articles in Malayalam?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is proposed to give such a consolidated list of controlled articles in Malayalam.

ACTUAL COST OF ONE PARA OF RICE—DETAILS REGARDING

170. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the quantity of paddy required for *one para* of rice according to the Departmental rules;

(*b*) the actual turn out they get now from the mills;

(*c*) the cost actually incurred per para at the mills by Government, *i.e.*, price of paddy, conveyance charges and the cost of milling;

(*d*) the actual sale price per para of rice?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* (*a*) There is no definite rule in the matter. Two paras are taken as the quantity of paddy generally required to get one para of rice after milling.

(*b*) Varies according to the variety and quality of paddy milled. It is generally $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ paras of rice for 10 paras of paddy.

(*c*) Varies according to the nature of the locality and the distance which paddy has to be taken to the mills. In regard to price of paddy see notification, dated 9th September 1943, published in the Extraordinary Gazette of the same date. Milling charges now come to 12 annas per 10 paras. Conveyance charges vary in different taluks according to local conditions.

(*d*) See notification, dated 9th September 1943, published in the Extraordinary Gazette theofsame date.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukava):* With reference toanswer (*d*) may I know whether the price of paddy will be uniform in all the places? The Gazette Extraordinary says that the prices are the same.

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. The price is the same except for "Anakkomban" paddy in Chittur.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether the price published in the Extraordinary Gazette is the average price. The point is this. You have stated that it varies in various places because the transit charges and other things vary. In that view, the Gazette Extraordinary gives a general price.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There is no different price in different localities. It is the average pool price.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* Will the government be pleased to state for which varieties of paddy they get 5½ paras of rice for 10 paras of paddy?.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Generally the yield of wet paddy will be less.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* I mean which variety of paddy?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

Mr. Joseph Pettsh *(Adur):* Are the Government aware that the milling charge for paddy, say, some four years ago, was only 2½ annas in Trichur for ten paras of paddy?

Rao Sahb M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The milling charge has increased very much this year.

Mr. Joseph Pettah *(Adur):* Are the Government of opinion that there is justification for raising it from 2½ annas to 12 annas?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There is justification.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is not the increase from 2½ annas to 12 annas the result of present day conditions?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* It is stated in answer to (*d*) "See notification dated 9th September 1943 published in the Extraordinary Gazette of the same date". The Gazette is not before us. Instead of printing all this it would have been enough if it was stated simply Rs. 2—4—0 per para. For that he has written so much.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The price for para is Rs. 3—15—4 except in Chittur where it is Rs. 3—13—8 per para.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I suggest, sir, that with much less stationery and printing charges we would have got more useful information by saying that the price of paddy is Rs. 1—6—0 and the price of rice is so much. This is a sort of thing which is adhered to unnecessarily and to our disadvantage.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I have already given the information.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is the cost of transport to distant mills, not a factor which raises the price of rice ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* That also will contribute to some extent.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether it could not be brought down by giving the paddy to adjoining mills wherever they exist ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* This is now done. Wherever it is possible we give paddy to mills in the local area.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It is not a fact, Sir.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is a fact.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* In the light of the assertion, Sir, that it is a fact.....

Mr. President: There is a qualification "wherever possible".

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* The safety valve is so wide that even an elephant can escape through it.

Mr. President: So you are not entitled to say that the answer is not quite correct.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will the Government seriously consider the question of revising the cost of rice at least by reducing the cost of transport by handing over paddy to mills, not wherever possible but wherever the mills exist.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It is not possible. Wherever possible we can do it. For example in the particular place the mill-owner may not be willing to undertake the work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* From that illustrative answer, Sir, are the Government in a position to tell us one instance where any particular mill was unwilling to take up this work for the Government?

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Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* In Thiruvilwamala one mill-owner refused to undertake the work.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* What about the other two mills in Thiruvilwamala please?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* It has been stated by Government, Sir, that one of the three mills in Thiruvilwamala refused to take it. I seek to enquire therefore what about the other two mills. That is the question.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It was given only by way of illustration. I have to look into the file to answer that question.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Is not the answer, Sir, that one of the mills refused to take it, correct?

Mr. President: Order, order.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I want only to know, Sir, whether the answer is correct.

Mr. President: You have to presume that the answer given by Government is correct. I cannot allow any cross examination on the point.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* If that is the ruling of the Chair I do not put the question. But I will do the necessary thing to expose the hollowness of the answer.

SHRINKAGE OF PADDY—PARTICULARS OF

171. Mr. B. M. Peter *(Latin-Christians-Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what percentage of shrinkage found in 1118 for the following varieties of paddy.—"ആനക്കൊമ്പൻ, ചെറുമണി, ചെട്ടിവിരിപ്പ്, വിരിപ്പ്, പൊക്കാളി";

(*b*) has the Supply Department given any reduction as shrinkage to the buyers (small retail shop keepers) when direct purchase is made between the shop-keeper and the cultivator?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) The shrinkage of paddy depends on its wetness. When dry paddy was purchased there was no further shrinkage. When wet paddy was purchased, reductions were made depending on degree of wetness. No detailed statistics have been kept.

(*b*) No. There is no necessity to allow shrinkage to merchants as they distribute paddy to cardholders as soon as it is taken delivery of from cultivators.

I will supplement my answer. On the wet paddy the shrinkage is 10 per cent. For Pokali the shrinkage is 5 per cent and Chetti- viruppu it is 25 per cent.

Mr. B. M. Peter *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri):* Does the Government demand any reduction for wetness beyond shrinkage. In the Gazette extraordinary it was stated that the shrinkage is 25 per cent for Chettivirippu and another 10 per cent for wetness.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* That shrinkage is only in the case of tail paddy.

Mr. B. M. Peter *(Latin Christians-Mattancheri):* May I know on what basis the Government has fixed that percentage.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* We enquired into the matter discussed it with some cultivators and it was agreed that 5 per cent and 25 per cent will be a reasonable allowance.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether any shrinkage allowance is given to the consumer when paddy is measured out to him.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will it not be a loss to the purchaser if he is not to be allowed this shrinkage.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* It will not be issued as paddy but it will be converted into rice and issued. It is issued as paddy only when the stock of rice is short.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether when it is actually measured out as paddy to the consumer it will not be a loss.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The tail is broken each time it is measured. When it reaches the retailer the shrinkage will be negligible.

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